



U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

[REDACTED]

FILE:

[REDACTED]

Office: TEXAS SERVICE CENTER

Date:

OCT 26 2004

IN RE:

Applicant:

[REDACTED]

APPLICATION:

Application for Temporary Protected Status under Section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1254

ON BEHALF OF APPLICANT:

Self-represented

INSTRUCTIONS:

This is the decision of the Administrative Appeals Office in your case. All documents have been returned to the office that originally decided your case. Any further inquiry must be made to that office.

Cindy N. Gomez for

Robert P. Wiemann, Director
Administrative Appeals Office

identifying data deleted to
prevent clearly unwarranted
invasion of personal privacy

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DISCUSSION: The application was denied by the Director, Texas Service Center, and is now before the Administrative Appeals Office on appeal. The appeal will be dismissed.

The applicant is a native and citizen of Honduras who is applying for Temporary Protected Status (TPS) under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), 8 U.S.C. § 1254.

The director denied the application because the applicant failed to establish that she was eligible for late registration.

On appeal, the applicant submits a statement, additional evidence in support of the appeal, and resubmits some documentation that had previously been entered into the record.

Section 244(c) of the Act, and the related regulations in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2, provide that an applicant who is a national of a foreign state designated by the Attorney General is eligible for temporary protected status only if such alien establishes that he or she:

- (a) Is a national, as defined in section 101(a)(21) of the Act, of a foreign state designated under section 244(b) of the Act;
- (b) Has been continuously physically present in the United States since the effective date of the most recent designation of that foreign state;
- (c) Has continuously resided in the United States since such date as the Attorney General may designate;
- (d) Is admissible as an immigrant except as provided under section 244.3;
- (e) Is not ineligible under 8 C.F.R. § 244.4; and
- (f)
 - (1) Registers for TPS during the initial registration period announced by public notice in the *Federal Register*, or
 - (2) During any subsequent extension of such designation if at the time of the initial registration period:
 - (i) The applicant is a nonimmigrant or has been granted voluntary departure status or any relief from removal;
 - (ii) The applicant has an application for change of status, adjustment of status, asylum, voluntary departure, or any relief from removal which is pending or subject to further review or appeal;
 - (iii) The applicant is a parolee or has a pending request for reparole; or
 - (iv) The applicant is a spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant.

- (g) Has filed an application for late registration with the appropriate Service director within a 60-day period immediately following the expiration or termination of conditions described in paragraph (f)(2) of this section.

Persons applying for TPS offered to Hondurans must demonstrate that they have continuously resided in the United States since December 30, 1998, and that they have been continuously physically present since January 5, 1999. The initial registration period for Hondurans was from January 5, 1999, through August 20, 1999. The record reveals that the applicant filed her initial TPS application with Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS), on June 24, 2003. It is noted that the applicant checked the box on the form indicating that this was an application for re-registration. The record, however, includes no evidence of an earlier application for TPS. In addition, a search of CIS database records did not reflect an earlier TPS filing for this applicant. Therefore, this application must be considered as an initial application for TPS registration.

To qualify for late registration, the applicant must provide evidence that during the initial registration period, she was either in a valid immigration status, had an application pending for relief from removal, was a parolee, or was the spouse or child of an alien currently eligible to be a TPS registrant, and she had filed an application for late registration within 60 days of the expiration or termination of the conditions described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2).

The burden of proof is upon the applicant to establish that she meets the above requirements. Applicants shall submit all documentation as required in the instructions or requested by CIS. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(a). The sufficiency of all evidence will be judged according to its relevancy, consistency, credibility, and probative value. To meet her burden of proof the applicant must provide supporting documentary evidence of eligibility apart from her own statements. 8 C.F.R. § 244.9(b).

On August 29, 2003, the applicant was requested to submit evidence establishing her eligibility for late registration as set forth in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). The applicant was also requested to submit photo identification such as a driver's license or state identification card. The applicant, in response, provided a photocopy of the biographic page of a Honduran passport, issued by the Consulate General, Miami, Florida, on September 8, 2003, and documentation relating to her residence and physical presence in the United States.

The director determined that the applicant had failed to establish she was eligible for late registration and denied the application on September 22, 2003.

On appeal, the applicant states that she has been living in the United States since 1998, and has evidence to prove that. She states she would like "the opportunity to continue being legal in this country in which with a lot of difficulty [she has] lived without having the opportunity of being employed and also given the chance to pay [her] taxes." She submits money transfer receipts dated between March and December 1999 from: Lempira Envios Corp., Miami, Florida; Universal Cambios, Inc., Miami, Florida; and, Urgente Express International Courier.

The applicant submitted evidence in an attempt to establish her qualifying continuous residence and continuous physical presence in the United States. However, this evidence does not mitigate the applicant's failure to file her Application for Temporary Protected Status within the initial registration period. It is noted that on the Form I-765, the applicant indicated both her manner of entry into the United States and her current immigration status as entry without inspection (EWI), while on the Form I-821, the applicant indicated that she entered the United States without inspection, and listed her current immigration status as an "F-1," nonimmigrant student.

The applicant, however, presented no evidence to substantiate that she had been granted any type of nonimmigrant status. The applicant has not submitted any evidence to establish that she has met any of the criteria for late registration described in 8 C.F.R. § 244.2(f)(2). Consequently, the director's decision to deny the application for temporary protected status will be affirmed.

Beyond the decision of the director, it also is noted that the applicant has provided insufficient credible evidence to establish her qualifying continuous residence and continuous physical presence during the requisite time periods. The record includes numerous generic receipts that cannot be linked to the applicant. Further, the applicant's name and the dates on the photocopied Florida Power & Light Company bills, Universal Cambios, Inc. invoices, and Lempira Envios Corp. receipts appear to have been altered. Doubt cast on any aspect of the applicant's proof may lead to a reevaluation of the reliability and sufficiency of the remaining evidence offered in support of the application. It is incumbent upon the applicant to resolve any inconsistencies in the record by independent objective evidence, and attempts to explain or reconcile such inconsistencies, absent competent objective evidence pointing to where the truth lies, will not suffice. *Matter of Ho*, 19 I&N Dec. 582 (BIA 1988). Therefore, the application must also be denied for these reasons.

In addition, the applicant has not conclusively established her nationality as the photocopy of the biographic page of the Honduran passport appears also to have been altered. In addition, the submitted birth certificate indicates that it was issued in Honduras on February 18, 2003, or five years after the applicant's alleged arrival in the United States.

An alien applying for temporary protected status has the burden of proving that he or she meets the requirements enumerated above and is otherwise eligible under the provisions of section 244 of the Act. The applicant has failed to meet this burden.

ORDER: The appeal is dismissed.